

**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a glass rod, which is a parent material of an optical fiber, comprising:

adjusting an axis of an apparatus for elongating a base material, which is a parent material of said glass rod, by adjusting a vertical inclination of a standard rod having a predetermined straightness, wherein the standard rod is placed in a hanging mechanism and an elongating mechanism of the device to adjust an axis ~~the straightness of which is smaller than the straightness of said base material;~~

removing the standard rod; and

heating and elongating said base material along an axis of said standard rod, said vertical inclination of which is adjusted, to generate said glass rod.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~material of said standard rod is~~ ceramic or metal ~~different from the material of said glass base material.~~